

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of modifying a global resource parameter comprising:
 - a. defining a plurality of global resource parameters for a first design project;
 - b. storing the plurality of global resource parameters as a default global setting; and
 - c. utilizing the stored default global setting as the plurality of global resource parameters on a subsequent design project.

10

2. The method according to Claim 1 further comprising recalling the default global setting on the subsequent project.

15

3. The method according to Claim 1 wherein defining the plurality of global resource parameters is accomplished via an input device.

4. The method according to Claim 1 further comprising displaying a plurality of possible parameter values for selecting.

20

5. The method according to Claim 4 wherein the defining comprises choosing one of the plurality of possible parameter values as a chosen parameter value for one of the plurality of global resource parameters.

6. The method according to Claim 5 further comprising propagating the chosen parameter value throughout said first design project.

7. A method of modifying a global resource parameter comprising:

5 a. selecting the global resource parameter via an input device wherein the global resource parameter is associated with a first design project;

 b. displaying a plurality of possible parameter values for the global resource in response to selecting the global resource parameter;

 c. choosing one of the plurality of possible parameter values as a chosen parameter value via the input device; and

10 d. storing the chosen parameter value as a default global setting for use by a second design project.

8. The method according to Claim 7 wherein the input device is a computer mouse.

15 9. The method according to Claim 7 wherein the input device is a track ball.

10. The method according to Claim 7 wherein the input device is a touch pad.

20

11. The method according to Claim 7 wherein displaying the plurality of possible parameter values includes displaying a pop-up list containing the plurality of possible parameter values.

12. A system for selecting and using a current global parameter value comprising:

5 a. a global resource menu configured to display the current global parameter value of a global resource, to display a plurality of possible global parameter values, and to allow one of the plurality of possible global parameters to be chosen as the current global parameter value;

10 b. a global resource parameter selector coupled to the global resource menu and configured to set the current global parameter value for an associated hardware resource; and

15 c. a global resource database coupled to the global resource parameter for tracking a location within the associated hardware resource for storing the current global parameter value as a default global setting for use among a plurality of design projects.

13. The system according to Claim 12 further comprising an input device connected to the global resource menu for choosing one of the plurality of possible global parameters.

20

14. The system according to Claim 13 wherein the input device is a computer mouse.

15. The method according to Claim 13 wherein the input device is a track ball.

16. The method according to Claim 13 wherein the input device is a touch pad.

5

17. In a design system for programming integrated circuits, a method of processing global design parameters comprising:

a) displaying, in tabular form, a list of global design parameters and respective global design parameter values associated therewith for use in a first

10 design project;

b) in response to a user selection of a selected global design parameter, displaying a window comprising a plurality of possible values for said selected global design parameter; and

c) in response to a user selection of a selected value of said possible 15 values, assigning said selected global design parameter to said selected value; and

d) in response to the user selection of the selected value of said possible values, storing said selected global design parameter to a default global setting for use in a second design project.

20

18. A method as described in Claim 17 further comprising:

selecting said selected global design parameter; and
selecting said selected value.

19. A method as described in Claim 18 wherein said selectings are performed using a cursor control device.

5 20. A method as described in Claim 17 further comprising:
 updating a memory resident database comprising said global design parameters and associated values; and
 propagating said global design parameters and associated values across a user circuit design for an integrated circuit to be programmed.

10 21. A method as described in Claim 20 wherein said integrated circuit to be programmed is a programmable microcontroller circuit.

15 22. A method as described in Claim 17 wherein said window comprises a pop-up list.

23. A design system for programming integrated circuits and comprising: a processor coupled to a bus; and a memory coupled to said, said memory containing instructions for implementing a method of processing global design parameters, said method comprising:
20 a) displaying, in tabular form, a list of global design parameters and respective global design parameter values associated therewith for use in a first design project;

b) in response to a user selection of a selected global design parameter, displaying a window comprising a plurality of possible values for said selected global design parameter;

c) in response to a user selection of a selected value of said possible values, assigning said selected global design parameter to said selected value; and

d) in response to the user selection of the selected value of said possible values, storing said selected global design parameter to a default global setting for use in a second design project.

10

24. A design system as described in Claim 23 wherein said method further comprises:

selecting said selected global design parameter; and
selecting said selected value.

15

25. A design system as described in Claim 24 wherein said selectings are performed using a cursor control device.

20

26. A design system as described in Claim 23 wherein said method further comprises:

updating a memory resident database comprising said global design parameters and associated values; and

propagating said global design parameters and associated values across
a user circuit design for an integrated circuit to be programmed.

27. A design system as described in Claim 26 wherein said integrated
5 circuit to be programmed is a programmable microcontroller circuit.

28. A design system as described in Claim 23 wherein said window
comprises a pop-up list.

PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA